

## **FIRE AT KAJABBI.**

### **Hotel and Store Razed.**

About 12.30 a.m. Thursday the residents of Kajabbi were startled from their beds by the cry of fire and it was seen that the Kalkadoon Hotel, owned and managed by Mr. Nev. Sturzaker was on fire.

Everyone hurried to the scene but the fire had too good a hold and all efforts to extinguish the flames were in vain and the hotel and store which were both under the one roof were totally destroyed.

Mr. Nev. Sturzaker, who has been confined to his bed practically for the last two years, was sleeping in a cottage next door which escaped the flames. His mother-in-law, Mrs. Katoofa and his eldest daughter were sleeping on the hotel premises and narrowly escaped with their lives, losing most of their personal effects in the fire. The police station which is adjacent to the hotel escaped any damage and the lighting house, wash-house and lavatories were not destroyed.

The Kalkadoon Hotel was originally situated near the Kalkadoon Mine between Mt. Cuthbert and Dobbyn. It was then shifted to Oona where the railway line junctions to Mt. Cuthbert and Dobbyn and on the decline of the mining industry in that district, Mr. Sturzaker secured the license and built the hotel at Kajabbi. Kajabbi, especially in the cattle season is a busy centre last year about 60,000 cattle were trucked there and the only hotel did a good trade. We have been unable to learn if there was any insurance on the hotel and store.